



1771

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Fumikazu MACHINO et al.

Serial No.: 09/180,432

Group Art Unit: 1771

Filed: February 12, 1999

Examiner: U. Ruddock

For: THERMAL-ACOUSTIC INSULATION AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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October 30, 2001

Sir:

TC 1700

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the European Search Report and one copy of each of these references is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Information Disclosure Statement
Fumikazu MACHINO et al.

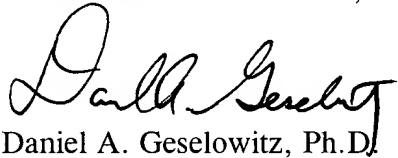
U.S. Patent Application S.N. 09/180,432
Attorney Docket No. 981361

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON, LLP



Daniel A. Geselowitz, Ph.D.
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 42,573

Atty. Docket No. 981361
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: (202) 659-2930
Fax: (202) 887-0357
DAG/plb
Enclosures: PTO-1449, European Search Report and 1 Reference